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News Release

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Sewage spill reported in Līhu'e

LĪHU'E – Digested sewage sludge overflowed early Thursday morning from the Līhu'e Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to the drainage channel next to the facility.

The digested sludge was in the process of being transferred to a drying bed a little after midnight when the sludge overtopped the drying bed and flowed into the channel.

Officials estimate that 21,000 gallons of the sludge overflowed from the Līhu'e WWTP over a 3-1/2 hour period. The spill was contained at approximately 3:30 a.m.

The sludge did not discharge into the ocean or other bodies of water, and the spill did not occur where there is public access.

Wastewater Management Division personnel are onsite cleaning up the spill.

Clean-up efforts include using vacuum equipment to remove sludge from the affected area followed by disinfection of the affected area with chlorine.

State Department of Health officials have been notified about the spill.